

Newah Organization of America (NOA)



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1. Introduction

Newah Organization of America (NOA) was founded because we Nepalese living in the United States of America (USA) especially in DMV (Washington, DC- Maryland-Virginia) area believed that it is necessary to advance the Newah community into the mainstream of American life and foster strong ties with compatriots in our homeland Nepal. At the mean time it is necessary to promote and preserve Newah language and culture in foreign land. It was founded in 2001 as a non-profit tax-exempt organization registered in the State of Maryland. There were 10 founding members: 1. Mr. Beda Pradhan, 2. Mr. Balaram Joshi, 3. Mr. Daya Shakya, 4. Mr. Tribhuvan Tuladhar, 5. Mr. Ganesh Kayastha, 6. Mr. Hariman Shrestha, 7. Mr. Deepak Tuladhar, 8. Mr. Krishna Charan Shrestha, 9. Mr. Ratna Kazi Shakya, and 10. Mr. Shyam Lal Shrestha.

2. Objectives:

a) To provide a democratic forum for the Newah community in order to freely express their thoughts and ideas to organize, promote, and advance their ideals, aspiration, history, culture, language, literature, socio-economical, and techno-scientific development for the well being and betterment of the community and its future generation.

b) To advance the Newah community into the mainstream of American life for mutual exchange of social and historical understandings and goodwill along with educational and technological ties on the one hand and to foster close and strong ties with compatriots in our homeland Nepal on the other hand.

c) To honor the ideals of just and fair democratic values and provide able and effective leadership for the community by enhancing and developing the historical-cultural, socio-economical, educational and techno-scientific bases of the community.

3. Annual National Conventions and General Meeting:

NOA has been organizing its annual National Convention & General Meeting and other activities as listed below:

- a) NOA has been organizing an Annual Convention and General Meeting in Washington, DC metropolitan area on Memorial Day weekend in May of every year.
- b) It brings Newah people living in North America together and invite Newah scholars and prominent personnel in the event so he/she can share experience,

knowledge, and provide new ideas to make Newah people living in DMV more knowledgeable of all aspects in Newah identity.

- c) It helps to recognize and appreciate for their lifelong commitment and time for Newah culture, Heritage, Nepalbhasa etc.
- d) It provides an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience related with Newah civilization, art and culture to the local community members

4. Ceremony

- a. NOA has been organizing a group Kaeta Puja Ceremony since 2010 in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.
- b. It serves and facilitates the traditional Newah Ritual Ceremony to the community.

5. Celebration:

- a. NOA is the first Newah organization to organize a Nepalsamvat Celebration in North America in commemoration of National Hero Sankhadar Sakhwa.
- b. Nepalese Embassy in Washington, DC every year joins NOA to celebrate Nepalsamvat and Hon. Nepalese Ambassador to the United States of America lit the Twaadewaa to officially begin the celebration.
- c. NOA is the first Newah organization outside Nepal to celebrate this Event.
- d. NOA has been celebrating Yenya:punhi since 2011.
- e. This is the most popular event in the Washington, DC Metro Area.
- f. Once NOA started to celebrate, different organizations have started this event in different states of America as well as different part of world.
- g. NOA celebrates this to keep Newah culture and tradition alive.

6. Mhapujaa Celebration:

- a. Mhapuja celebration was started in 2006. This event has been organized and celebrated by NOA-Language Center (NOA-LC) in order to show and teach our children so they have hands-on experience of making Mandapa and procedure of it.
- b. It teaches younger generations the cultural values of Newars and to keep our tradition alive.

7. Yomaripunhi Celebration:

- a. NOA has been celebrating Yomaripunhi since 2013.
- b. It teaches younger generation the Newah values and tradition as well importance of festivals in the society.
- c. Children make yomari and the best yomari maker receives small reward.

8. Paahaanchare Celebration gathering:

- a. NOA started Paahaan Chare festival celebration in 2012.
- b. NOA celebrates to keep a piece of Newah tradition alive and bring the community together to strengthen relationship.
- c. It provides an opportunity to exchange ideas to serve better to the Newah community.

9. Swosthaani Brata Kathaa Samaapan:

- a. NOA has been organizing Swasthani Brata Samapan since 2012 with the request from our community.
- b. This is one of the very unique religious Newah traditions in Kathmandu Valley.

10. NOA Scholarship Program:

- a. NOA has been working with Jagat Sundar Bwonekuthi to provide scholarship.
- b. NOA started its scholarship program in 2009.

- c. Last year NOA provided scholarship to 27 students and this year providing to 25 students.
- d. NOA awards scholarship to Newah and non-Newah students whose families are having financial hardship.

11. NOA Language Center (NOA-LC):

- a. NOA Language Center was established in 2003.
- b. It was established to teach Nepalbhasa to everybody who is interested in learning, especially focuses on children.
- c. It may be the first Nepalbhasa Learning Center outside of Nepal.

NOA has been inviting prominent Newah people and conduct interaction programs to share their ideas and views.

NOA has been continuously organizing an interaction program with Newah activist, scholar, writer, social worker, historian and prominent personnel during their visit to USA.

Newah Scholar Prominent People who were felicitated

- 1. Dr. Satya Mohan Joshi, 2. Prof. Manik Lal Shrestha, 3. Dr. David Gellener, 4. Mr. Durga Lal Shrestha, 5. Dr. Juhi Gubhani, 6. Mr. Indra Bahadur Mali, 7. Mr. Raj Bhai Jakami, 8. Gautama Vajracharya, 9. Daman Nath Dungana, 10. Jessica Vantine Birkenholtz, 11. Banshidhar Tuladhar, 12. Bimal Prabha

Bajracharya, 13. Late Ramesh Tamrakar, 14.

Interaction program with prominent Newah people:

- 1. Kashinath Tamot, 2. Mr. Madan Krishna Shrestha, 3. Padma Ratna Tuladhar, 4. Mr. Malla K. Sunder, 5. Mr. Dev Dass Manandhar, 6. Mr. Narendra Bhakta Hada, 7. Dr. Sushila Maharjan, 8. Rajiva Shanker Shrestha, 9. Chandra Lata Newar

NOA has 5 chapters in the US. They are:

- 1. NOA Seattle Chapter: President Mr. Suroj Kumar Dangol
- 2. NOA Southern California Chapter: President Mr. Durga Shrestha
- 3. NOA Northern California Chapter: President Mr. Amrit Lal Karmacharya
- 4. NOA Florida Chapter: President Mr. Sanjay Bajracharya
- 5. NOA New England Chapter: President Mr. Raju Man Shrestha

NOA always had its offices, chapters, and officials in the United States of America only until current president Ms. Babita Pradhan Shrestha assumed office. She is wise enough to appoint a Nepal Country Coordinator who used to be NOA Executive Board Member, Mr. Kiran Ken Ranjit to take responsibility of Jagat Sundar Bwonekuthi scholarship program as well as NOA's all Nepal related businesses.



**माभास आखः ब्वनादिसँ,
थःगु जातिया रक्षा यानादिसँ ।**

